

Congresswoman Kaptur attended a memorial service in Charleston, West Virginia to pay her respects to Senator Robert Byrd, the longest-serving legislator in history. Senator Byrd passed away on Monday, June 28 at the age of 92.

The Senator was honored at the Federal Courthouse with tributes from President Barack Obama, President William Jefferson Clinton, Vice President Joe Biden, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Senator John D. Rockefeller, Congressman Nick Rahall, and Victoria Kennedy, the wife of the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

Senator Byrd's great-granddaughters participated in the wreath-laying and Bishop William Boyd Grove, the former Bishop for the W.V. Episcopal Area of the United Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

The welcome introduction was given by Governor Joe Manchin, and the benediction was given by the Reverend James L. Patterson, President of the Partnership for African American Churches.

Bagpiper Major Mark Burdette of the Kanawha Valley Pips and Drums played a rendition of "Amazing Grace", and the 249th Army Band ended the service by playing "Country Roads", while the crowd sang along.